CONSTITUTIONS,

RESOLUTIONS,

DECISIONS AND FORMS,

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA.

COMPILED BY ORDER OF THE GRAND LODGE,

BY

M.·. W.·. A. T. C. PIERSON, P.·. G.·. M.·.

OFFICE OF THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONS FOR MINNESOTA,
St. Paul, October 28th, 1867.

M.·. W.·. A. T. C. PIERSON, P.·. G.·. M.·.

Dear Sir and Brother:

At the late session of the Grand ▭ of this State, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the M.·. W.·. C. W. Nash, M.·. W.·. P.·. G.·. M.·. A. T. C. Pierson, and G.·. C.·. S. Y. McMasters, be requested, and are hereby authorized to arrange and publish in such form as they may deem advisable, for the use of the Subordinate ▭ in this jurisdiction, the Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations of this Grand ▭, now in force, together with such resolutions as are designed for the instruction and government of Subordinate ▭."

My engagements are of such a nature and so multifarious, that it will be impossible for me, in justice to myself, to devote the time necessary in the preparation of the work contemplated by the resolution.

Having been present at and participated in the deliberations of every session of the Grand ▭ from its organization, you are familiar with the whole matter, and doubtless better prepared to undertake the labor than any other member. Will you please do so.

Permit me to suggest that the work should contain the forms for petitions, election returns, returns of Subordinate ▭, &c., to the end that we may have a uniform system for the transaction of business.

Fraternally, &c. &c.,

C. W. NASH,
Grand Master.

REPORT.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 27, 1868.

M.·. W.·. C. W. Nash, G.·. M.·. of Minnesota:

In submitting for your inspection, the result of the labor which your communication of October 27, imposed upon me, I have deemed it pertinent to preface my report by noticing a few points connected with the earlier history of our Grand □, which are not known to the present members.

The first Masonic □ organized in the Territory of Minnesota, was at St. Paul, and named St. Paul □. The dispensation was granted by the Grand Master of Ohio, dated August 4th, 1849. St. John's □, at Stillwater, received its dispensation from the Grand Master of Wisconsin, dated October 12, 1850, and the brethren at St. Anthony received a similar favor from the Grand Master of Illinois during the summer of 1852.

Although the □ at St. Paul was the first organized, it was the last of the three to receive a charter, the dates being, St. John's, June 9, 1852, Cataract, October 5th, 1852, St. Paul, January 24th, 1853.

These three □□, by their delegates, met in convention Feb. 23, 1853, and formed the Grand □ of Minnesota.

The Constitution then adopted was presented by R.·. W.·. Bro. Aaron Goodrich, who was the first Deputy Grand Master. It was not designed, and our R.·. W.·. brother did not expect it to be permanent, but sufficient for organization.

At the close of the session of 1854, the following was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of one from each □, under the jurisdiction of this Grand □, be appointed by the Grand Master to revise the Constitution of this Grand □, and report at the next Grand Annual Communication, and Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, H. N. Setzer, D. F. Brawley, C. T. Stearns, and D. M. Coolbaugh were appointed said committee.

One session had demonstrated the necessity of a change in the Constitution; the committee were anxious to frame one that should be permanent; with that view they procured copies of the Constitution of thirty-three Grand □□, all that were then organized in the United States. After a careful examination and comparison, they selected that of New York as a basis. The Constitution thus selected, was the result of the joint labors of Judge John L. Lewis

and Chancellor Walworth, both eminent jurists and Past Grand Masters of that State.

At the session of 1855, the matter arranged by the committee for their report, was read, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee heretofore appointed to revise the Constitution of this Grand ▭, have leave to print the draft of the same, at the expense of this Grand ▭, and to defer their report until the next Annual Communication, and send copies of the draft to all the Subordinate ▭ under this jurisdiction.

Events during the year had shown the necessity of a code of regulations for the government of ▭ during trials. A committee was appointed to prepare such a code during the session, and Bro. Setzer made a report, which was unanimously adopted. The code was printed with the draft of the proposed Constitution, and sent to the Subordinate ▭. The ▭ evinced great interest in the matter, and each article and section was thoroughly discussed, and the result reported to the committee. Where two or more ▭ made the same suggestions as to alterations or changes, they were adopted by the committee. At the session of 1856 the committee presented their report. The Grand ▭ remained in session five days. The draft was taken up by sections, each was thoroughly discussed, and the whole was unanimously adopted, as reported by the committee.

The following resolution was also adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the W.·. M.·. of each ▭ subordinate to the Grand ▭, at the next stated meeting after he shall receive the printed copies of the proposed Constitution, to cause the same to be read and acted upon by his ▭, and that it shall be the duty of the Secretary of such ▭ to immediately notify the R.·. W.·. Grand Secretary of the result of such action, and when it shall have been proved to the satisfaction of the Grand Master that two-thirds of the ▭ subordinate to this Grand ▭, have approved of the said Constitution, he may by his proclamation declare the same to be in full force and effect.

At the session of 1857 the Grand Master announced in his address that he had issued the proclamation on the 1st of May preceding, and caused certified copies of the Constitution to be furnished to each ▭. Each ▭ had sent up its approval of the Constitution.

Over ten years have elapsed, and our Constitution remains substantially the same; a few verbal charges only have been made. Some changes have been made in the General Regulations, and Rules adopted affecting the trial code, all of which have been incorporated in this report.

All the Resolutions of the Grand ▭ from its organization to the close of session of 1867, have been carefully compiled, and arranged under suitable heads, so as to be readily found.

All the decisions of the Grand Masters which have been reported to, and approved by the Grand ▭, have also been set forth.

Your suggestion as to certain forms has been complied with, and

hereafter there can be no excuse, if returns are not properly made in each as to form, time, and matter.

In former editions of the Constitution, the "Ancient Charges" have been printed therewith; they are also incorporated in this report.

The effort has been to present in as condensed and simple form as practicable all the matter referred to in the resolution of the Grand □. Whether successful or not is for you, Most Worshipful Sir, and the Fraternity in the jurisdiction, to judge.

Fraternally, &c.,

A. T. C. PIERSON,
For the Committee.

CONSTITUTION.

WE, the Grand ☐ of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, practicing the Ancient York Rite, in order to form perfect union, establish order, insure tranquility, provide for, and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity within our jurisdiction, the blessing of the Masonic privilege, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

PART FIRST---POWERS AND PRIVILEGES.

TITLE FIRST—OF MASONIC GOVERNMENT.

SECTION 1. The government of Free and Accepted Masons is reposed—

1st. In Grand ☐; and

2d. In Subordinate or Particular ☐.

SEC. 2. A Grand ☐ is a body of Masons in whom is inalienably vested the government and superintendence of the Fraternity within its territorial jurisdiction, and is primarily composed of its Grand officers, and the Master and Wardens, or their proxies, of the Subordinate ☐ under its jurisdiction. It may also enlarge or diminish its numbers, at its pleasure, by a provision, or change of its Constitution.

SEC. 3. A Subordinate or Particular ☐ consists of a Master, a Senior and Junior Warden, a Treasurer, a Senior and Junior Deacon, and as many members as may be convenient, congregating and working by virtue of a Warrant held under the Grand ☐ having lawful jurisdiction over it, and at the place designated in the Warrant, or by the Grand ☐.

TITLE SECOND—OF MASONIC LAWS.

SEC. 4. The action of Freemasons in their Grand or Subordinate ☐, or in their individual character, is regulated and controlled—

1st. By Ancient Landmarks.

2d. By written Constitutions and General Regulations; and

3d. By Usages, Customs, Rules, Edicts and Resolutions, having the force of General Regulations.

SEC. 5. The Ancient Landmarks, are those principles of Masonic government and polity, which are among the parts of Masonic law, or rule of government that may never be altered or disturbed, as for instance, the universal language of Masons, and those peculiar marks of distinction by which we are separated from the profane, and by which we are enabled to prove ourselves as the "Sons of Light."

SEC. 6. Constitutions are those written compacts or laws, adopted by Freemasons for the government of a Grand ▭, and its Subordinate ▭ and their members, including General Regulations that are constitutionally adopted, and intended to be permanent in their character.

SEC. 7. General Regulations, Usages, Customs, Rules, Edicts, and Resolutions, are those Masonic Rules of action, adopted by competent authority, for local or temporary purposes, admitting of change at convenience, and not embraced in Ancient Landmarks or Constitutions, and are frequently termed B-yLaws.

SEC. 8. The following are enumerated as among the Ancient Constitutions having the force of Ancient Landmarks of the Fraternity, as such, having been generally received and acknowledged by Masons:

1st. That belief in the Supreme Being, "the Great Architect of the Universe," who will punish vice and reward virtue, is an indispensible prerequisite to admission to Masonry.

2d. That the moral law, which inculcates charity and probity, industry and sobriety, and obedience to law and civil government, is the rule and guide of every Mason, and to which strict conformity is required.

3d. That obedience to the Masonic law and authority being voluntarily assumed, is of perpetual obligation.

4th. That the rights and ceremonies (which include the unwritten language,) of the true system of the Ancient York Rite, and which constitute a part of the body of Masonry, are immutable, and that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations therein.

5th. That contentions and lawsuits between brethren are contrary to the laws and regulations of Masonry.

6th. That charity is the right of a Mason, his widow and orphans, when poor and destitute, to demand, and the duty of his prosperous brother to bestow.

7th. That Masonic instruction is, like charity, a reciprocal right and duty of Masons.

8th. That the right to visit Masonically is an absolute right, and duty of Masons.

9th. That men made Masons, must be of mature age, free-born, of good report, hale and sound, not deformed or dismembered, and no eunuch.

10th. That the Grand Master may make Masons at sight, and may grant a Dispensation to a ▭ for the same purpose, but in other cases a candidate must be proposed in open ▭, at a stated meeting, and can only be accepted at a stated meeting following, by the scrutiny of secret ballot, and an unanimous vote, and must pay a fixed price before admission.

11th. It is the duty of every Mason to be a contributing member of some ▭.

12th. That a Mason who is not a member of a ▭, is still subject to the disciplinary power of Masonry.

13th. That the Master and Wardens of every Warranted ▭ are of right and inalienably, representatives in and members of the Grand ▭.

14th. That no one can be elected Master of a Warranted ▭ (except at its first election,) but a Master Mason who shall have served as a Warden.

15th. That every Mason must be tried by his peers; hence the Master cannot be tried by his ▭.

16th. That no appeal to the ▭ can be taken from the decision of the Master, or the Wardens occupying the chair in his absence.

17th. That Masonic intercourse with a clandestine or expelled Mason, is a breach of duty, and an offence against Masonic law.

18th. That a restoration of the privileges of Masonry by the Grand ▭, does not restore to membership in the Subordinate ▭.

19th. That a failure to meet by a ▭ for one year, is cause for the forfeiture of its Warrant.

20th. That it is the duty as well as the right of every Warranted ▭ to be represented in the Grand ▭ at its Communications.

21st. That a Grand ▭ has supreme and exclusive jurisdiction, within its territorial limits, over all matters of Ancient Craft Masonry.

22d. That no appeal lies from the decision of the Grand Master in the chair, or his Deputy or Warden, occupying the chair in his absence.

23d. That the office of Grand Master is always elective, and should be filled annually by the Grand ▭.

24th. That a Grand ▭ composed of its officers and representa-

tives, must meet at least once in each year, to consult and act concerning the interests of the Fraternity in its jurisdiction.

25th. That all officers of Grand or Subordinate ▭ must be Master Masons.

26th. That no subject of a sectarian or political character can be discussed in a ▭, and any Mason proposing such a subject, renders himself liable to the disciplinary action of the ▭.

TITLE THIRD—OF GRAND ▭.

SEC. 9. The powers and privileges of Grand ▭ are—

1st. Executive.

2d. Legislative; and

3d. Judicial.

The exercise of these powers and privileges is defined in particular Constitutions and General Regulations, which it has an inalienable right to frame and adopt at its convenience, and to amend, alter, add to, or repeal, at its pleasure, under the limitations therein imposed, and are final and conclusive upon all parties concerned until altered or reversed by the Grand ▭. But nothing can be adopted in derogation of the Ancient Landmarks; nor can any legislative act or general regulation be passed, affecting the interest of the whole Fraternity, except at a stated Annual Communication.

SEC. 10. All the executive powers of a Grand ▭, when not in session, are reposed in its Grand Master.

SEC. 11. The legislative powers of a Grand ▭ extend to every case of legislation not delegated or reserved to Subordinate ▭.

SEC. 12. The judicial powers of a Grand ▭ are of two kinds:

1st. Original—embracing all matters of controversy which may arise between any of the Subordinate ▭ under its jurisdiction, or the members of different ▭, and the enforcement of discipline upon its own members, and the ▭ under its jurisdiction, and upon individual Masons; and

2d. Appellate—embracing all matters of controversy and discipline, proper for Masonic investigation, arising in any Subordinate ▭, and over which it has not original jurisdiction.

SEC. 13. All governmental powers, whether executive, legislative or judicial, not expressly delegated by the Grand ▭, are inherent in and reserved to it as the supreme governing body.

TITLE FOURTH—OF SUBORDINATE ▭.

SEC. 14. The powers and privileges of a Subordinate or Particular ▭ are such as are defined in its warrant; and by the Constitution of the Grand ▭ granting the same; and the Ancient Landmarks and General Regulations; and are divided into—

1st. Executive—in the direction and performance of its work under the control of its Master, and in all other matters in aid of the Master, who has the Primary Executive Power of a ▭;

2d. Legislative—embracing all matters relating to its internal concerns, not in derogation of the Ancient Landmarks, the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand ▭, and its own particular By-Laws; and

3d. Judicial—embracing the exercise of discipline, and settlement of controversies between and over all its members (except the Master), and over all Masons and non-affiliated brethren within its jurisdiction, subject to an appeal to the Grand ▭.

SEC. 15. ▭ shall take precedence according to the seniority of their respective warrants.

SEC. 16. A ▭ can only be organized by—

1st. The dispensation of the Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

2d. The warrant of the Grand ▭ having jurisdiction; and in either case only upon the application of not less than seven regular Master Masons.

SEC. 17. A ▭ can only be dissolved—

1st. By the act of the Grand ▭, whereby its warrant is forfeited.

2d. By a voluntary surrender of its warrant. But no ▭ can surrender its warrant, so long as seven regular Master Masons, including the present or a Past Master, or a present or a former Warden, are desirous of retaining it.

SEC. 18. The acts by which a warrant may be forfeited, are—

1st. Contumacy to the authority of the Grand Master or Grand ▭.

2d. Departure from the original plan of Masonry, and Ancient Landmarks.

3d. Disobedience to the Constitutions; or

4th. Ceasing to meet for one year.

The surrender or forfeiture of a warrant when declared by the Grand ▭; or the expiration of the term for which a dispensation had been issued, (unless a charter or warrant is granted by the G.·. ▭,) or the withdrawing of the same by the Grand Master, shall be

conclusive upon the ☐ and its members, and carries with it all the property of the ☐ which becomes the property of the Grand ☐, and must, on demand, be surrendered by the last Master, or whoever has it in custody, to the Grand ☐, or its authorized agent.

SEC. 19. No warrant of a ☐ can be forfeited except upon charges regularly made in the Grand ☐, at its Annual Communication, of which due notice shall be given the ☐, and an opportunity of being heard in defence; but it may be suspended by the Grand ☐, or Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master, at any time upon proper cause shown, which suspension shall not extend beyond the next Annual Communication.

SEC. 20. A ☐ may not remove its place of meeting from the city, town, or village named in its warrant; nor from one place to another in the same city, town, or village, except by a concurrent vote of two-thirds of the members present, at a stated meeting, or at a meeting to be appointed, for which a summons shall be issued stating its object, which summons must be served at least ten days previous to such meeting, and such removal from the city, town, or village, must receive the sanction of the Grand ☐, or Grand Master previous thereto.

SEC. 21. A ☐ has full power and authority to enact By-Laws for its own government, conformable to its Grand ☐ Constitutions and the principles of Masonry, and any By-Law inconsistent therewith, is absolutely void.

SEC. 22. A ☐ has power to make but five new brethren, at the same time, without a dispensation from the Grand Master, nor shall the second or third Degrees be conferred until the candidate has proved his proficiency in the preceding Degrees by a satisfactory examination in open ☐, except by dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy.

SEC. 23. A ☐ may not initiate any person without due inquiry into his qualifications; nor shall any visitor be admitted without satisfactory proof that he is in good standing in his ☐, or was, in the last ☐ of which he was a member; nor shall any non-affiliated Mason be permitted to visit any one ☐ in this jurisdiction more than three times while he remains thus non-affiliated, who is a permanent resident, within the jurisdiction of this Grand ☐.

SEC. 24. The Masters, Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary of Subordinate or Particular ☐, must be elective; other offices may be filled as the By-Laws of said ☐ may prescribe. All elective officers must be chosen annually by ballot, and by a majority of votes. All appointed officers must be chosen immediately after the installation of the Master. All officers should, if practicable, be in-

stalled on or before the next Stated Communication after they shall have been chosen.

SEC. 25. A ▭ may fill vacancies in office, except those of Master and Wardens, (as their By-Laws may prescribe,) at any stated Communication, upon full notice to the members.

SEC. 26. Every member of a ▭ in good standing is entitled to one vote, and every voter is eligible to any office in the ▭ except that of Master. None but Master Masons and those who have signed the By-Laws can be members of a Subordinate or Particular ▭.

SEC. 27. The ballot for candidates or membership is strictly and inviolably secret, and to elect must be unanimous.

SEC. 28. No ▭ can receive, refer, or act upon a petition for initiation or membership, or ballot for initiates, officers, or membership, or adopt any resolution affecting the By-Laws of the ▭, at any other than a stated Communication. Every ▭ should meet at least once in every month for the dispatch of business.

SEC. 29. No ▭ can, at a special meeting, alter or expunge any part of the proceedings of a stated one.

SEC. 30. In the absence of, vacancy in the office, or inability of the Master, the Senior and Junior Wardens will, in succession, succeed to his prerogatives and duties for all purposes. In the absence of all three of the above named officers, the ▭ may be opened by one of its Past Masters.

SEC. 31. No ▭ shall confer the Degrees for a less sum than fifteen dollars; nor upon credit, or receive a promissory note therefor in lieu of money, nor distribute its funds among its members, nor introduce ardent spirits within its ▭ room, or any room adjoining, or meet for Masonic labors, other than deeds of charity, on the Sabbath, or first day of the week.

SEC. 32. A ▭ under Dispensation is but a temporary and inchoate body, and is not entitled to representation in the Grand ▭, and those who work it do not forfeit their membership thereby in any other ▭ while it so continues, but such membership is thereby suspended.

TITLE FIFTH—OF PENALTIES.

SEC. 33. The penalties imposed by Masonic law, are—

1st. Reprimand, which may be done privately or in open ▭, by the Master.

2d. Suspension, which is either limited or indefinite; and

3d. Expulsion, which always implies a termination not only of

his Masonic intercourse and connection with the body inflicting it, but from the Masonic Fraternity, unless an appeal be made.

SEC. 34. Suspension applies to ▭ as well as to individuals, and when inflicted upon a ▭, it suspends all its members unless expressly excepted. Suspension and expulsion imply interdiction of all Masonic intercourse with delinquents while in force.

SEC. 35. Suspension is only inflicted when the offence is against some temporary regulation of the Fraternity; expulsion follows a gross violation of the moral law, or the fundamental principles of Masonry, or attempts against any part of the framework of its government. Neither shall be published to any but Masons, except by permission of the Grand ▭ or Grand Master.

SEC. 36. A ▭ may pronounce sentence of indefinite suspension, or expulsion, which shall be final unless appealed from within six months of the knowledge of the sentence, and reversed or modified on such appeal by the Grand ▭. But the Grand ▭ may, on application, after one year from the sentence, restore any one suspended or expelled by a ▭ or Grand ▭, in its discretion.

SEC. 37. Arrears for one year's dues may subject a member to be stricken from the roll of his ▭; and such fact shall be stated in the annual return, and the ▭ thereafter shall not be liable to the Grand ▭ for such dues, and the member shall thereupon become non-affiliated, but no act of expulsion shall be pronounced thereon for non-payment of dues only.

SEC. 38. Any poor brother, unable to pay the adjoining fee, may be received without such fee by any ▭ as an honorary member thereof, by the unanimous vote of the brethren present, after one month's previous notice; and the ▭ may excuse such brother from the payment of any dues, and shall not be liable to the Grand ▭ for such fees and dues.

SEC. 39. It being the duty of every Mason to belong to a ▭ and contribute to its funds; therefore, any Mason who does not contribute to the funds or belong to some ▭, shall not be entitled to join in processions, or receive assistance, or Masonic burial.

TITLE SIXTH—OF TRIAL AND ITS INCIDENTS.

SEC. 40. All charges for unmasonic conduct, committed while the Craft is at labor, shall be preferred by the Senior Warden, and all charges for such conduct, while the Craft is at refreshment, (including the time intervening between the various meetings of the ▭,) shall be preferred by the Junior Warden.

SEC. 41. Any brother feeling himself aggrieved shall request the

proper Warden of his ▭ to prefer charges against the brother injuring him, and in case the Warden should refuse to act, the brother aggrieved has full authority to prefer such charges himself; should the accused, however, be acquitted, he may prefer a charge against his accuser, for acting maliciously.

SEC. 42. When two brethren reside within the jurisdiction of different ▭, the brother aggrieved shall first apply to the Warden of the ▭ to which the offending brother is amenable, and in case of that officer refusing to act, he may apply to his own ▭, and that ▭ may by resolution, request the proper officer of the sister ▭ to prefer the charges against the offending brother, and in case of such a resolution, duly certified by the Worshipful Master and Secretary, being handed to the presiding officer of a sister ▭, it shall be his duty to take notice of the same and govern himself accordingly.

SEC. 43. The accused shall be permitted to engage a brother Master Mason to defend him, to answer the complaint, produce and cross-examine witnessess, obtain a reasonable delay, showing a sufficient cause for the same, and either by himself or counsel, address the ▭ after the closing of the testimony, but never shall offensive allusions to, or insinuations against the ▭ or a brother be permitted, and the Worshipful Master shall order the brother so offending to leave the ▭, and the Senior Warden may bring charges against such brother for unmasonic conduct.

SEC. 44. The accused cannot vote on his own case; but no other member of the ▭ present can be excused from voting; and no ▭ shall proceed to trial unless a majority of the members of such ▭ be present; but the Worshipful Master may issue his summons, and call off from day to day, until the required number appear.

SEC. 45. Whenever a member of a ▭, or a brother Master Mason, under this jurisdiction, shall be accused of crime or offence, which if proved would subject him to suspension or expulsion, the proceedings in the premises shall be conducted, substantially, agreeably to the following rules:

RULE 1. The accusation shall be reduced to writing, by a brother, and given in charge to the S.·. or J.·. W.·., in accordance with ancient usage, whose duty it shall be to present said charges to the ▭ at the first regular meeting thereafter, and the ▭ shall refer the same to a judicious committee for investigation. The committee shall serve, or cause to be served, on the accused, an attested copy of the charge or charges, together with a notice of the time and place of investigation, not less than fourteen days prior to the time appointed for such investigation; *provided* the residence of the accused shall be known, and shall be within the distance of fifty miles

of the place where the ☐ having the matter in charge, is located. If the residence of the accused be a greater distance than fifty miles from the place of hearing, but within the State, then a summons to appear and show cause may be served personally, or by depositing the same in the post office, addressed to the accused at the post office where he resides, postage paid, not less than twenty days before the time of investigation, which being proved shall be deemed sufficient service. If his residence be out of the State, and unknown, the ☐ may proceed *exparte;* but if known, a summons shall be served personally or by mail as aforesaid, not less than forty days before the time appointed for the investigation.

RULE 2. No person shall be present during the investigation before the committee except the members of the committee, the party accused, their counsel, and the summoned witnesses.

RULE 3. Each witness shall be examined separately and apart from the other witnesses, if desired by the accused, and all testimony proper to be written shall be reduced to writing by the committee.

RULE 4. The accused shall have the benefit of counsel of any one who is a Master Mason in good standing, if he desire it; also of cross-examination, and rebutting testimony, before the committee, and of counsel in open ☐ after the committee report, and before the vote is taken by the ☐. After having been heard in open ☐, the accused, his counsel, and all parties interested personally in the prosecution of the complaint, or related within the degrees of affinity or consanguinity, shall retire before the question is discussed or decided by the ☐.

RULE 5. An accused brother should be judged according to the evidence, and in accordance with the well recognized and sound principles of the common law; and since no brother can pronounce judgment upon his honor, contrary to his own conviction, it becomes the duty of every one, whether called upon or not, to lay before the committee such facts in regard to the case under investigation as he may be cognizant of, but such testimony must be given in presence of the accused or his counsel. Any brother failing to make known any facts pertinent to the question before the committee, should be held amenable to all the penalties of Masonic discipline.

RULE 6. In pronouncing upon the guilt or innocence of an accused brother, the roll of the ☐ shall be called, beginning with the youngest Mason, and ending with the W.·. M.·., and every brother, as his name is called, shall rise, salute the Master, and pronounce his judgment upon his honor, as a Mason, "guilty," or "not guilty," of unmasonic conduct.

RULE 7. If the verdict be guilty, the ☐ shall forthwith proceed,

in its own prudent way, to declare and record the *degree* of punishment to be inflicted.

RULE 8. In no case shall the accused or his counsel be present when judgment is pronounced, and the revealing of any transaction of the ▭, with regard to voting in the case under consideration, shall be sufficient cause for *expulsion*.

RULE 9. If the verdict be tantamount to *suspension*, and an appeal be duly taken, an attested copy of the proceedings shall be sent up at the ensuing meeting of the Grand ▭, for examination and final action. If tantamount to *expulsion*, like proceedings shall be furnished Grand ▭, and it shall operate as a suspension only, until the affirmance of the Grand ▭ shall be obtained.

RULE 10. The Grand ▭ shall, within a reasonable time after an appeal shall have been perfected in cases of suspension, and in all cases of expulsion, proceed to examine the case as presented in the certified transcript, and make a just, equitable, and final decision of the matter.

RULE 11. Any brother deeming himself aggrieved by the decision of suspension, or by a decision refusing to suspend, may appeal to the Grand ▭ against said decision.

The appeal must be made in writing within six months after the decision complained of, and transmitted to the Grand Secretary ten days at least before the first day of the session of the Grand ▭ thereafter. A notice and copy of the appeal must, at the time, be sent by the appellant to the party against whose decision the appeal is made.

RULE 12. A reversal of the decision of the ▭, made by the G.·. ▭, shall have the effect only to restore the accused to the general rights and privileges of Masonry, and not to membership within the body from which he was suspended or expelled, without its unanimous consent.

RULE 13. In cases of original investigation, when any testimony offered shall be objected to by either party, the committee shall fairly and impartially note the objection, and then receive the testimony under the objection.

RULE 14. Either party shall be entitled to process to compel the attendance of witnesses, being members of the Order, and the committee shall have full power to issue the same.

RULE 15. The Grand ▭ retains original jurisdiction in all cases of its own members, or of Masters of ▭ while in office.

RULE 16. All provisions of this Constitution, conflicting with the foregoing rules and regulations, are hereby repealed.

SEC. 46. In no case shall the accused be present when judgment

is pronounced, and the revealing of any transaction of the □, with regard to voting in the case under consideration, shall be sufficient cause for expulsion.

SEC. 47. No visiting brother, unless a witness, or as counsel for the accused, shall be admitted to the □ while the trial is in progress, and neither counsel or witness, unless members of the □, shall remain within during voting.

SEC. 48. After a brother has been found guilty, the next question shall be that of punishment, beginning with the greatest, and on this question the ballot may be used, under the direction of the Worshipful Master, provided that a two-third vote shall be required to inflict the penalty of expulsion.

SEC. 49. Charges against the Master of a □ can only be presented to the Grand □, while he continues in office, or within one year thereafter.

TITLE SEVENTH—OF CHARITY.

SEC. 50. Every brother in good standing, and the wives, widows, and minor children of such, have a claim to charitable relief from the funds of the Grand □, or any of its Subordinates, upon presenting satisfactory evidence of their Masonic character or relations, and that they are in necessitous circumstances.

SEC. 51. When such claim shall be made upon the funds of the Grand □ when in session, it shall be referred to the Grand Stewards and Grand Treasurer, who shall report thereon to the Grand □ at the same session.

SEC. 52. When such claim shall be made in the recess, it shall be presented to the Grand Master, his Deputy, the Grand Wardens, or the Grand Secretary, who shall select three brethren, Past Masters, Master, or Wardens of □, who shall be a committee to examine and report thereon; and the Grand Treasurer shall pay any draft upon him for such relief made by them, and countersigned by the Grand Officer appointing them, not exceeding fifty dollars for any one object.

TITLE EIGHTH—OF GRAND □ OFFICERS.

SEC. 53. The Officers of a Grand □ are elected or appointed, and hold their offices for one year, or until their successors are chosen and installed.

SEC. 54. The Elective Officers of a Grand □ are—the Grand Master, (whose style is Most Worshipful,) Deputy Grand Master,

Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary, (the style of all whom is Right Worshipful.)

SEC. 55. The appointed Officers of a Grand ▭ are, a Grand Chaplain, Grand Marshal, Grand Standard Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Steward, Senior and Junior Grand Deacons, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, (the style of all of whom is Worshipful.)

SEC. 56. Elective Officers of the Grand ▭ must be chosen at its Annual Communication, by ballot, and by a majority of votes. Appointed Officers are selected by the Grand Master. It may have such additional officers as its necessities or objects require, to be provided for by a general regulation.

SEC. 57. Installation of the officers of the Grand ▭ must take place during the Annual Communication at which they are selected; and vacancies may be filled by temporary appointment from the Grand Master till the next annual election.

TITLE NINTH—DUTIES AND POWERS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

SEC. 58. The Most Worshipful Grand Master has power to—

1st. Convene any ▭ within the jurisdiction; to preside therein; to inspect their proceedings, and require their conformity to Masonic rules.

2d. To require the attendance of any Grand Officer in his visitations to Subordinate ▭, and information respecting the duties of their offices.

3d. To make Masons at sight; and may, by written Dispensation, delegate this power to a ▭.

4th. To convene the Grand ▭, by giving twenty days notice.

5th. To suspend a ▭, or a brother, until the next meeting of the Grand ▭, when he shall present the reasons for such suspension in writing.

6th. To grant Dispensations for new ▭, (when the Grand ▭ is not in session,) or for a ▭ to change its place of meeting, (in accordance with Section 20,) or for public processions or assemblies; or for the election of Master or Wardens of Subordinate ▭.

7th. To exercise all such other powers as are warranted or required of him by the Ancient Regulations, or Customs of the Craft; provided always, that he shall have no power to suspend the operation of any By-Law of this Grand ▭.

The duties of Grand Master are—

1st. To preside at all meetings of the Grand ▭.

2d. To appoint all officers and committees of this Grand ▭ not otherwise provided for.

3d. To lay before the Grand ▭, on the first day of their Annual Communication, or as soon thereafter as possible, a written Message, therein detailing an account of his official acts during the recess, the state and condition of Masonry in the jurisdiction, and recommend to the Grand ▭ such measures as he may deem expedient and necessary.

4th. To give the casting vote in the Grand ▭ whenever on any question there shall be an equal number of votes.

5th. To visit each Subordinate ▭ in the jurisdiction at least once in the year.

6th. To exercise a supervisory control over the Grand Officers, instruct them in their various duties, and see that the same are performed.

SEC. 59. The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master's powers and duties are—

1st. He must attend the meetings of the Grand ▭, and render the Grand Master such assistance as may be required of him.

2d. In case of the death or permanent removal from the jurisdiction of the Grand Master, he may exercise all the powers, and perform all the duties of Grand Master until the next meeting of the Grand ▭.

3d. In the temporary absence of the Grand Master from the jurisdiction, he may, with the consent of the Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, call a meeting of the Grand ▭, and exercise such other powers and duties appertaining to the office of Grand Master, that the interest of the Craft may in their judgment demand.

SEC. 60. The Grand Wardens shall assist the Grand Master in the Grand ▭, and attend him in the Grand Visitations when required, and discharge such other duties as appertain to their office. In the absence of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Warden shall preside; and in his absence, the Junior Warden shall preside.

SEC. 61. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary—

1st. To record the Proceedings of the Grand ▭.

2d. To receive and keep a proper account of all moneys of the Grand ▭, and pay over the same without delay to the Grand Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.

3d. To keep a Register in which to enter all Warrants, Dispensations or Certificates, granted by the Grand ▭, Grand Master, or Deputy Grand Master.

4th. To keep a register of all the Subordinate ▭ and their

members, with a permanent number prefixed to each name, together with the age, occupation, residence, date of initiation, passing, raising, admission, withdrawal, expulsion, suspension, restoration, or death, returned for registry.

5th. To receive, file, and safely keep, all papers and documents of the Grand ▭.

6th. To sign and certify all instruments of the Grand ▭; and shall have the custody of the Seal of the Grand ▭.

7th. To report annually to the Grand ▭ the amount of moneys received by him, by items, and the specific sources from which it was received, and also the ▭ that have neglected to render proper returns of their elections, members and dues, and such general information as to the state of the ▭, as may be proper for the information or action of the Grand ▭.

8th. To conduct the correspondence of the Grand ▭, under the direction of the Grand Master, in a Masonic manner.

9th. To attend, with all necessary writings under his control, at all meetings of the Grand ▭, on the requisition of the Grand Master; and also to attend upon the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, on Masonic business, when required.

10th. To transmit to the several Grand ▭ in correspondence with this Grand ▭, a certificate of the election of Grand officers immediately thereafter, containing their signatures respectively, and authenticated under his hand and the Seal of the Grand ▭, with a request for a similar document from each of said Grand ▭.

Sec. 62. It shall be the duty of the Grand Treasurer—

1st. To take charge of all the funds, property, securities, and vouchers of the Grand ▭.

2d. To pay all orders duly drawn under general regulations, or special directions of the Grand ▭.

3d. To attend on the Grand ▭ or its Presiding Officer, when required, with the books and all necessary documents relating to his office, and when required, the meeting of any committee whose duty it may be to act in relation to the fiscal concerns of the Grand ▭.

4th. To report annually to the Grand ▭ the amount of his receipts and expenditures, by items, and from whom received, and to whom paid, and the amount of securities in his hands for funds invested by the Trustees.

5th. To execute and file with the Grand Secretary an official bond, with sureties, to be approved by the Trustees, conditioned on the faithful performance of his duties as Grand Treasurer.

6th. To pay and deliver, at the expiration of his term, to his successor in office, or such person as shall be designated by the Grand

□, all moneys, securities, evidences of debt, books, writing, and property of the Grand □ under his control, with all proper assignments, when necessary.

SEC. 63. It shall be the duty of the Grand Chaplain to attend the Grand □, and to perform the religious services.

SEC. 64. It shall be the duty of the Grand Marshal—

1st. To proclaim the Grand Officers at their installation.

2d. To introduce the representatives of foreign Grand □ and visiting brethren of distinction; and

3d. To conduct the processions of the Grand □.

SEC. 65. It shall be the duty of the Grand Standard Bearer to carry the Grand Banner of the Order in processions and public ceremonies.

SEC. 66. It shall be the duty of the Grand Sword Bearer—

1st. To carry the sword in procession, and

2d. To perform such other duties as by ancient usage pertain to his office.

SEC. 67. It shall be the duty of the Grand Stewards—

1st. To examine into all applications made for charity to the Grand □.

2d. To have immediate superintendence in the provision to be made for festivals.

SEC. 68. It shall be the duty of the Grand Deacons to assist within the body of the Grand □ in such duties as by usage appertain to their office.

SEC. 69. It shall be the duty of the Grand Pursuivant—

1st. To communicate with the Grand Tyler, and announce all applicants for admission, by their names, Masonic address, and connection.

2d. To take charge of the jewels and clothing, under the direction of the Grand officers.

3d. To attend all meetings of the Grand □, and at other times, upon the requisition of the Grand Master or Presiding Officer.

SEC. 75. It shall be the duty of the Grand Tyler—

1st. To guard the door of the Grand □ on the outside; to report all persons claiming admission; to see that none enter unless duly authorized and properly clothed.

2d. To carry summons, and perform all the customary services pertaining to his office.

3d. To attend all meetings of the Grand □, and at other times, upon the requisition of the Grand Master or Presiding Officer.

SEC. 70. The Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Pursuivant, and Grand Tyler, shall each receive such compensation for their services as the Grand □ shall direct.

SEC. 71. No amendment to the Constitution shall be made, or have effect, until it shall have been proposed in the Grand ☐, at its Annual Communication, and concurred in by two-thirds of the members present. Said amendment shall then be printed with the Proceedings of the Grand ☐, and sent to all the ☐ under the jurisdiction; and if approved by two-thirds of the members at the next Annual Communication, it shall then be in full force and effect.

PART SECOND—GENERAL REGULATIONS.

TITLE FIRST—OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE GRAND ☐ OF MINNESOTA.

SEC. 72. The style of this Grand ☐ shall be "The Most Worshipful Grand ☐ of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota."

SEC. 73. This Grand ☐ shall be composed of the Grand Officers mentioned in sections 54 and 55 of this Constitution; and all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, and the Master and Wardens, or their proxies, of all ☐ subordinate to this Grand ☐. A proxy must have arrived to the rank of Warden.

SEC. 74. Every officer and member of the Grand ☐ must be a member of a Subordinate ☐ within the jurisdiction.

SEC. 75. The Grand ☐ shall meet annually in the city of St. Paul, on the Tuesday after the first Monday in January, at which meeting the Grand Officers shall be selected and installed, and all matters affecting the Craft in this jurisdiction, shall be considered and acted upon. Special Communications may be held at any other time, on the requisition of the Grand Master; but no business of legislation shall be transacted, or change of the Constitutions, regulations, or rules of government of the Grand ☐ or Craft, shall be made, except at the Grand Annual Communication.

SEC. 76. Each ☐, represented either by their officers or their proxies, shall be entitled to three votes. If but two officers are present, and the third not represented by proxy, the officer highest in rank may have two votes. If two of said representatives be absent, the representative present shall cast the entire vote of the ☐.

SEC. 77. None but members of the Grand ▭ (past or present officers of other Grand ▭ excepted,) shall be present at the opening of the same, or during an election.

SEC. 78. No brother shall be admitted into the Grand ▭ but the members thereof, except by permission of the Grand ▭. No brother residing in the vicinity of a ▭, and not a member of some ▭, shall be permitted to visit the Grand ▭, except by special invitation.

SEC. 79. Each member of the Grand ▭ shall appear therein with his proper clothing and Jewel.

SEC. 80. The Jewels of the Grand ▭ shall be yellow, the collars and aprons of purple velvet. The Jewels of the Officers of Subordinate ▭ to be of silver; the color of their collars blue, and of aprons white, trimmed with blue.

SEC. 81. All members of the Grand ▭ shall be entitled to one vote, except the appointed officers, who may not vote for the election of officers; but the Grand Master has two votes. Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters, Past Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, shall each be entitled to one vote when in Grand ▭; but no Grand Officer, or Past Grand Officer shall be entitled to vote in a double capacity, but may elect in which capacity he will vote.

TITLE SECOND—OF REVENUE AND FUNDS.

SEC. 82. The revenue of this Grand ▭ shall be derived from the following sources:

For every charter or warrant	$45 00
For every dispensation for a new ▭	20 00
And if a charter or warrant be afterwards granted	25 00
For every dispensation to confer the three degrees in one evening	5 00
For every Grand ▭ diploma	1 50
For every Degree conferred by a ▭	1 00
Every ▭ shall pay for each of its members of one year's standing	50
For the adjoining of every Master Mason	50

SEC. 83. Every ▭ shall be accountable for the dues of its members. ▭ may make By-Laws exempting its Secretary, Chaplain, and Tyler from the payment of dues; in such cases the ▭ shall be exempt from liability to the Grand ▭ for such dues.

SEC. 84. The management of the permanent funds shall be vested in a Board of Trustees, denominated the Trustees of the Permanent

Fund, said Board to be composed of the Grand Master, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary.

SEC. 85. All funds invested for the Grand ▭ shall stand in the corporate name of the Grand ▭. The Trustees shall deposit in the hands of the Grand Treasurer the security and vouchers of the said invested funds, and shall have the power to transfer, sell, or dispose of, or appropriate any part of the invested fund, without a vote of the Grand ▭ at the Annual Communication, in such cases only when the security, in the opinion of said Board, shall become insufficient or of doubtful character.

TITLE THIRD—OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

SEC 86. That the following standing committees shall be appointed by the Grand Master, at the earliest practical period after the opening of such Grand Annual Communication:

1st. A committee of three, to examine and report upon the returns of ▭.

2d. A committee of three upon Work of ▭ under dispensation.

3d. A committee of three to examine the books, vouchers, &c., of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary.

4th. A committee of two to examine visiting brethren.

5th. A committee of five on appeals and grievances.

6th. A committee of three on Foreign Correspondence.

7th. A committee of three on unfinished business.

8th. A committee of three on ancient landmarks.

9th. A committee of three on Masonic Jurisprudence.

[9th. May report upon questions referred to them at the time, or succeeding session of the Grand ▭.]

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence shall report at the succeeding Communication after their appointment.

TITLE FOURTH—MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS.

SEC. 87. All elections in this Grand ▭ shall be by ballot.

SEC. 88. Past Masters to be recognized by this Grand ▭ as such, are those who have been duly elected, installed, and have presided over a ▭ one year, within this jurisdiction. Provided, however, that this provision shall not affect the standing of such brethren as have been recognized as Past Masters by this Grand ▭, at its previous Communications.

SEC. 89. No Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft, initiated or

passed in any ▭ within the United States, shall be passed or raised in any ▭ under this jurisdiction, other than that in which he was initiated, unless he shall procure a recommendation from the ▭ in which he was initiated, provided said ▭ continues in existence.

SEC. 90. No one shall be eligible to the office of Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior or Junior Grand Wardens, but Past Masters. Nor can the Grand Master be at the same time Master of a Subordinate ▭.

SEC. 91. In all elections, a majority of the whole number of votes cast, shall be necessary to constitute a choice.

SEC. 92. The Grand Secretary, under the direction of the Grand Master, shall, at the opening of the session of the Grand ▭, prepare a list of all the members of the Grand ▭, with the number of votes affixed to which each member is entitled.

SEC. 93. No ▭ shall be entitled to representation in the Grand ▭, that is in arrears for two years; but shall stand suspended until such time as it shall discharge such arrearages. The Grand Secretary shall notify such ▭, and if it does not appear by its representatives at the next Annual Communication thereafter, and discharge such arrearage, said ▭ shall be stricken from the roll of ▭.

SEC. 94. The Grand Regulations, or By-Laws, of this Grand ▭, may be amended at any Annual Communication, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

SEC. 96. All former Constitutions or Regulations of this Grand ▭ are hereby repealed.

THE CHARGES OF A FREEMASON.

Extracted from the Ancient Records of ▱ beyond sea, and those in England, Scotland, and Ireland, for the use of the ▱ in London. To be read at the making of new brethren, or when the Master shall order it.

THE GENERAL HEADS.

I. Of God and Religion. II. Of Civil Magistrates, Supreme and Subordinate. III. Of ▱. IV. Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices. V. Of the Management of the Craft in working. VI. Of Behavior—1st, In the □ while constituted. 2d, After the □ is over, and the Brethren are not gone. 3d, When Brethren meet without strangers, but not in a □. 4th, In the presence of strangers not Masons. 5th, At home and in the neighborhood. 6th, Towards a strange brother.

I. CONCERNING GOD AND RELIGION.

A Mason is obliged, by his tenure, to obey the moral law; and if he rightly understands the Art, he will never be a stupid Atheist nor an irreligious libertine.

But though in ancient times Masons were charged in every country to be of the religion of that country or nation, whatever it was, yet 'tis now thought more expedient only to oblige them to that religion in which all men agree, leaving their particular opinions to themselves; that is, to be good men and true, or men of honor and honesty, by whatever denominations or persuasions they may be distinguished; whereby Masonry becomes the centre of union, and the means of conciliating true friendship among persons that must have remained at a perpetual distance.

II. OF THE CIVIL MAGISTRATES, SUPREME AND SUBORDINATE.

A Mason is to be a peaceable subject to the civil powers, wherever he resides or works, and is never to be concerned in plots and conspiracies against the peace and welfare of the nation, nor to behave himself undutifully to inferior magistrates; for as Masonry hath been always injured by war, bloodshed and confusion, so ancient kings and princes have been much disposed to encourage the Craftsmen because of their peaceableness and loyalty, whereby they practically answered the cavils of their adversaries, and promoted the honor of the Fraternity, who ever flourished in times of peace.

So that if a brother should rebel against the state, he is not to be countenanced in his rebellion, however he may be pitied as an unhappy man; and if convicted of no other crime, though the loyal brotherhood must and ought to disown his rebellion, and give no

umbrage or ground of political jealousy to the government for the time being, they cannot expel him from the □, and his relation to it remains indefeasible.

III. OF □.

A □ is a place where Masons assemble and work; hence, that assembly, or duly organized society of Masons, is called a □, and every brother ought to belong to one, and to be subject to its by-laws and the general regulations. It is either particular or general, and will be best understood by attending it, and by the regulations of the general or Grand □ hereunto annexed. In ancient times, no Master or Fellow could be absent from it, especially when warned to appear at it, without incurring a severe censure, until it appeared to the Master and Wardens that pure necessity hindered him.

The persons admitted members of a □ must be good and true men, free born, and of mature and discreet age, no bondmen, no women, no immoral or scandalous men, but of good report.

IV. OF MASTERS, WARDENS, FELLOWS, AND APPRENTICES.

All preferment among Masons is grounded upon real worth and personal merit only; that so the lords may be well served, and brethren not put to shame, nor the Royal Craft despised. Therefore no Master or Warden is chosen by seniority, but for his merit. It is impossible to describe these things in writing, and every brother must attend in his place, and learn them in a way peculiar to this Fraternity.

Only candidates may know that no Master should take an Apprentice, unless he has sufficient employment for him, and unless he be a perfect youth, having no maim or defect in his body, that may render him uncapable of learning the art, of serving his master's lord, and of being made a brother, and then a Fellow Craft, in due time, even after he has served such a term of years as the custom of the country directs; and that he should be descended of honest parents; that so, when otherwise qualified he may arrive to the honor of being the Warden, and then the Master of the □, the Grand Warden, and at length the Grand Master of all the □, according to his merit.

No brother can be a Warden until he has passed the part of a Fellow Craft; nor a Master until he has acted as a Warden; no Grand Warden until he has been Master of a □; nor Grand Master unless he has been a Fellow Craft before his election, who is also to be nobly born, or a gentleman of the best fashion, or some eminent scholar, or some curious architect, or artist, descended of hon-

est parents, and who is of singular great merit in the opinion of the ▭. And for the better and easier and more honorable discharge of his office, the Grand Master has power to choose his own Deputy Grand Master, who must be then, or must have been formerly, the Master of a particular ▭, and has the privilege of acting whatever the Grand Master, his principal, should act, unless the said principal be president, or interpose his authority by letter.

These rulers and governors, supreme and subordinate, of the Ancient ▭, are to be obeyed in their respective stations by all the brethren, according to the old Charges and Regulations, with all humility, reverence, love, and alacrity.

V. OF THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CRAFT IN WORKING.

All Masons shall work honestly on working days, that they may live creditably on holy days; and the time appointed by the law of the land, or confirmed by custom, shall be observed.

The most expert of the Fellow Craftsmen shall be chosen the Master, or Overseer of the lord's work, who is to be called Master by those that work under him. The Craftsmen are to avoid all ill language, and to call each other by no disobliging name, but brother or fellow; and to behave themselves courteously within and without the ▭.

The Master knowing himself to be able of cunning, shall undertake the lord's work as reasonably as possible, and truly dispend his goods as if they were his own; nor to give more wages to any brother or apprentice than he really may deserve.

Both the Master and the Masons, receiving their wages justly, shall be faithful to the lord, and honestly finish their work, whether task or journey; nor put the work to task, that hath been accustomed to journey.

None shall discover envy at the prosperity of a brother, nor supplant him or put him out of his work, if he be capable to finish the same; for no man can finish another's work so much to the lord's profit unless he be thoroughly acquainted with the designs and drafts of him that began it.

When a fellow Craftsman is chosen Warden of the work under the Master, he shall be true both to Master and Fellows, shall carefully oversee the work in the Master's absence, to the lord's profit; and his brethren shall obey him.

All Masons employed shall meekly receive their wages, without murmuring or mutiny, and not desert the Master, till the work is finished.

A younger brother shall be instructed in working, to prevent

spoiling the materials for want of judgment, and for increasing and continuing of brotherly love.

All the tools used in working shall be approved by the Grand □.

No laborer shall be employed in the proper work of Masonry; nor shall Freemasons work with those that are not Free, without an urgent necessity; nor shall they teach laborers and unaccepted Masons, as they should teach a brother or fellow.

VI. OF BEHAVIOR, VIZ.

1. *In the* □ *while constituted.*—You are not to hold private committees, or separate conversation, without leave from the Master, nor to talk of anything impertinent or unseemly, nor interrupt the Master or Wardens, or any brother speaking to the Master; nor behave yourself ludicrously or jestingly, while the □ is engaged in what is serious and solemn; nor use any unbecoming language upon any pretence whatsoever; but to pay due reverence to your Master, Wardens, and Fellows, and put them to worship.

If any complaint be brought, the brother found guilty shall stand to the award and determination of the □, who are the proper and competent judges of all such controversies, (unless you carry it by appeal to the Grand □,) and to whom they ought to be referred, unless the lord's work be hindered the meanwhile, in which case a particular reference may be made; but you must never go to law about what concerneth Masonry, without an absolute necessity apparent to the □.

2. *Behavior after the* □ *is over, and the brethren not gone.*—You may enjoy yourselves with innocent mirth, treating one another according to ability, but avoiding all excess, or forcing any brother to eat or drink beyond his inclination; nor hinder him from going when his occasions call him, or doing or saying anything offensive, or that may forbid an easy and free conversation, for that would blast our harmony and defeat our laudable purposes. Therefore, no private piques or quarrels must be brought within the door of the □, far less any quarrels about *religion, or nation, or State policy,* we being only as *Masons* of the *Catholic Religion* above mentioned; we are also of all *nations, tongues, kindreds, and languages,* and are resolved against all *politics,* as what never yet conduced to the welfare of the □, nor ever will. This *Charge* has been always strictly enjoined and observed; but especially ever since the *Reformation* in BRITAIN, or the dissent and secession of these nations from the *communion* of ROME.

3. *Behavior when brethren meet without strangers, but not in a* □ *formed.*—You are to salute one another in a courteous manner, as you will be instructed, calling each other *brother,* freely giving mu-

tual instruction, as shall be thought expedient, without being overseen or overheard, and without encroaching upon each other, or derogating from that respect which is due to any brother, were he not a Mason. For though all *Masons* are as *brethren* upon the same *level*, yet *Masonry* takes no honor from a man that he had before; nay, rather it adds to his honor, especially if he has deserved well of the Brotherhood, who must give honor to whom it is due, and avoid ill *manners*.

4. *Behavior in presence of strangers not Masons.*—You shall be cautious in your words and carriage, that the most penetrating stranger shall not be able to discover or find out what is not proper to be intimated; and sometimes you shall divert a discourse, and manage it prudently, for the honor of the *worshipful Fraternity*.

5. *Behavior at home and in your neighborhood.*—You are to act as becomes a moral and wise man; particularly, not to let your family, friends and neighbors know the *concerns* of the □, &c.; but wisely consult your own honor, and that of the *Ancient Brotherhood*, for reasons not to be mentioned here. You must also consult your health, by not continuing together too late, or too long from home, after □ hours are past; and by avoiding of gluttony or drunkenness, that your families be not neglected or injured, nor you disabled from working.

6. *Behavior towards a strange brother.*—You are cautiously to examine him in such a method as prudence shall direct you, that you may not be imposed upon by an ignorant, false *pretender*, whom you are to reject with contempt and derision, and beware of giving him any hints or knowledge.

But if you discover him to be a true and genuine *brother*, you are to respect him accordingly, and if he is in want, you must relieve him if you can, or else direct him how he may be relieved; you must employ him some days or else recommend him to be employed; but you are not charged to do beyond your abilty, only to prefer a poor *brother*, that is a *good man* and *true*, before any other people in the same circumstances.

FINALLY, all these CHARGES, you are to observe, and also those that shall be communicated to you in another way; cultivating BROTHERLY LOVE, the foundation and cap-stone, the *cement* and *glory* of this ancient *Fraternity:* avoiding all wrangling and quarreling, all slander and backbiting, nor permitting others to slander any honest brother, but defending his character, and doing him all good offices, as far as is consistent with your *honor and safety*, and no farther.

And if any of them do you an injury, you must apply to your own

or his ▭; and from thence you may appeal to the GRAND ▭, at the *Quarterly Communication*, and from thence to the *annual* GRAND ▭, as has been the ancient laudable conduct of our forefathers in every nation, never taking a *legal course* but when the case cannot be otherwise decided, and patiently listening to the honest and friendly advice of *Master and fellows*, when they would prevent your going to law with *strangers*, or would excite you to put a speedy period to all *lawsuits*, that so you may mind the affairs of MASONRY with the more alacrity and success; but with respect to *brothers or fellows* at law, the *Master* and brethren should kindly offer their mediation, which ought to be thankfully submitted to by the contending brethren; and if that submission is impracticable, they must, however, carry on their *process or lawsuit* without wrath and rancor, (not in the common way,) saying or doing nothing which may hinder *brotherly love*, and good offices to be renewed and continued; that all may see the *benign influence* of MASONRY, as all true *Masons* have done from the beginning of the world, and will do to the end of *time*. *Amen, so mote it be.*

RESOLUTIONS OF THE GRAND ▭.

QUESTIONS.

BY WHOM TO BE DECIDED.

WHEREAS, The Constitution and Regulations of the Grand ▭ of Minnesota, and the Ancient Charges, are the only written law within this jurisdiction, therefore—

Resolved, That the pretended decisions on Masonic Law, as published in the columns of several self-styled Masonic journals, have no binding force or authority within the jurisdiction of the Grand ▭ of Minnesota, and that such interference on the part of individuals, without having the authority of their Grand ▭, is unmasonic, and should be discouraged.

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, being a courteous interchange of opinion on the action of sister jurisdictions, and bearing the authority of their respective Grand ▭, is amply sufficient to correct error should such have been committed.

Resolved, That the brethren in this jurisdiction, in case of doubt on the construction of the written or unwritten laws of our Institution, should apply to the legally constituted authorities of this Grand ▭, and that application to brethren living under foreign jurisdiction is not only unnecessary, but if used for the purpose of fomenting strife and bitterness, highly unmasonic and censurable. (*Proceedings of October*, 1860, *pages* 367, 368.)

FUNERALS.

Resolved, That the clothing of brethren at Masonic funerals shall be white aprons, white sashes and white gloves, with the exception of the officers, who shall wear their appropriate jewels.

ITINERANT LECTURERS.

Resolved, That ▭ working under this jurisdiction be, and they are hereby instructed not to receive lectures in any of the Degrees of Masonry from itinerant lecturers, except they present authority from the Grand Master or Grand Officers of this Grand ▭.

Resolved, That the ▭ in this State are hereby prohibited from receiving the Masonic Work, Ritual or Lectures, from any other than the constituted authorities of this jurisdiction. (*Proceedings of October*, 1861, *page* 435.)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND ▭ TO BE READ.

Resolved, That the Proceedings of this Grand ▭ be read in open ▭ in all Subordinate ▭ under this jurisdiction, at the first stated meeting after they shall receive the same, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Resolved, That the four elected Grand Officers be constituted a Committee to audit all demands against this Grand ▭; that they be empowered to allow such reasonable compensation to the Grand Secretary as his services may demand, and to appropriate a sufficient sum for the purchase of the Grand ▭ jewels. The order of the M.·. W.·. Grand Master, drawn upon the Grand Treasurer, shall be a sufficient voucher for the latter officer to disburse the funds of the Grand ▭. (*Proceedings of* 1855, *page* 32.)

DEGREE OF PAST MASTER.

Whereas, It is the opinion of this Grand ▭ that the Degree of Past Master rightfully belongs to the Master of a ▭, and without which he cannot efficiently discharge the duties of his office, and

Whereas, Doubts are entertained by some whether the Master elect of a Subordinate ▭ can receive said Degree, save in the Grand

□, or by dispensation from the Grand Master to one or more Past Masters, known to him as such, and

Whereas, There is nothing in the Book of Constitutions or Ancient Landmarks which have come down to us, showing us any well defined or settled rule upon the subject, therefore be it

Resolved, That the retiring Master from the chair of any □ who has been formally invested with the Degree of Past Master, may, with the assistance of two or more Past Masters, confer said Degree upon his successor in office, in order to qualify him for the same; yet no such Past Master, or convocation of Past Masters, can confer said Degree in any other case or for any other purpose whatever.—(*Proceedings of* 1856, *page* 44.)

PAY OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Resolved, That the Senior Representative from each □ shall be, and hereby is, entitled to receive from this Grand □ his traveling expenses, at the rates established by the proprietors of public conveyances, which he shall take in coming directly from his □ to the place of meeting and returning thereto, and also three dollars for each day's attendance on the Grand □ while in session. Provided, however, if he represent more than one □, he shall only receive pay for one □, nor more than the amount of dues paid by said □, nor shall he receive any pay if he absent himself before the close of the Communication—sickness of, or calamity to himself or family, excepted.—(*Proceedings of* 1856, *page* 59.)

DUES OF ▭ U.·. D.·.

Resolved, That the brethren who work a □ U.·. D.·., are liable to the several ▭ from which they hail, for dues; and those ▭ must pay dues for them to the Grand □, the only dues chargeable to a □ U.·. D.·. being one dollar for each Degree conferred.—(*Proceedings of* 1857, *page* 74.)

□ RECORDS.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand □, the terms "adjourned," "met by appointment," "called off for two weeks," (or any other time, except for actual refreshment,) are terms unknown to Masonry, and should not be used in Masonic ▭.—(*Proceedings of* 1857, *page* 78.)

PETITIONS OF CANDIDATES.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand □, committees of inquiry upon petitions presented in Subordinate ▭, should make particular personal inquiry into the moral, physical, intellectual and social qualifications of petitioners, and should not, in any case, rest satisfied with merely negative virtues, but should become convinced

that the condidates will add to our moral as well as our numerical strength.—(*Proceedings of* 1857, *page* 79.)

Resolved, That all applicants for the Degrees in Masonry, shall reside within the jurisdiction of the Subordinate ▭ to which application is made, at least one year previous to making such application. (*Proceedings of October*, 1858, *page* 202.)

WITHDRAWAL OF PETITIONS.

Resolved, That a petition for the Degrees of Masonry cannot be withdrawn from a ▭, unless favorably reported upon by the Committee of Investigation, and then only by unanimous vote of the ▭. —(*Proceedings of January*, 1858, *page* 127.)

RENEWAL OF PETITIONS.

Resolved, That the time intervening between the rejection of a candidate in a Subordinate ▭ under this jurisdiction, and a reapplication for the Degrees in the same, shall be not less than six months. (*Proceedings of October*, 1858, *page* 201.)

ON APPEALS.

Resolved, That in all cases of suspension or expulsion which may hereafter take place in any ▭ in this jurisdiction, when the party delinquent appeals from the decision of his ▭, an official report of the trial, together with all of the papers and proceedings in the case, should be transmitted forthwith to the Grand Secretary, by the Secretary of said ▭, to the end that speedy justice may be doue by the Grand ▭.—(*Proceedings of January*, 1858, *page* 118.)

▭ U.·. D.·.

Resolved, That ▭ U.·. D.·. applying to this Grand ▭ for charters, shall be hereafter required to send up their dispensations and recordswith their returns.—(*Proceedings of January*, 1858, *page* 121.)

NAMES NOT TO BE PRINTED.

On motion, Ordered, That the Grand Secretary omit the names of members of Subordinate ▭ in the printed Proceedings.—(*Proceedings of January*, 1858, *page* 130.)

MASONIC CONGRESS.

Resolved, That this Grand ▭ is in favor of the organization of a General Grand Body of Masons, for the purposes designated in the M.·. W.·. Grand Master's address; that while it is opposed to the formation of a Grand ▭ having supreme power, it is in favor of a Masonic Congress of Masons of the United States, having certain delegated rights; and respectfully presents to the consideration of the Masonic Fraternity of the United States, the plan proposed by the M.·. W.·. Grand Master, A. T. C. Pierson, in his address to this

Grand ☐, as the basis of organization.—(*Proceedings of October*, 1858, *page* 25.)

Resolved, That the Grand ☐ adopt the plan proposed in the report of that Convention, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish the chairman of the standing committee of that Convention, notice of the approval and adoption by this Grand ☐, of the plan proposed for the North American Congress.—(*Proceedings of October*, 1859, *page* 203.)

APPOINTMENT OF GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Resolved, That the M.·. W.·. Grand Master appoint representatives from this Grand Body, to reside at or near, and represent us in other Grand ☐, and respectfully request the appointment of like representatives to this Grand ☐.—(*Proceedings of October*, 1858, *pages* 203, 204.)

NON-AFFILIATED MASONS.

Resolved, That no resident non-affiliated Mason shall be allowed to visit any Subordinate ☐ in this jurisdiction after he shall have resided in said jurisdiction six months.—(*Proceedings of October*, 1859, *page* 285.)

CONSERVATOR'S ASSOCIATION.

Resolved, That the action of the M.·. W.·. Grand Master, in warning the Craft in this jurisdiction against the so called "Conservator's Association," meets with the cordial approbation of this Grand ☐.

Resolved, That this Grand ☐ recognizes only the Degrees of E.·. A.·., F.·. C.·., and M.·. M.·., and the Degree appertaining to the chair of Master of a ☐.

Resolved, That the attempt to establish or confer a new Degree among Master Masons, called "Conservators," is unmasonic, and all Masons in this jurisdiction are prohibited from receiving or conferring such Degree, or in any manner aiding in establishing such Degree, or the so-called Conservator's Association, upon pain of Masonic discipline. (*Proceedings of* 1861, *pages* 433, 4, 5.)

OPPOSING A MASONIC POLITICAL CONVENTION.

Resolved, That we fully and earnestly approve of the views of the Grand Master, in his address in relation to the Louisville Convention.

Resolved, That we regard the preservation of our country of inestimable value; and as we regard with the most tender and fraternal feelings all brethren, of every section of our common country, we believe it of the utmost importance that all honorable means should be made use of, as individuals and citizens, to restore peace and

happiness, and one more move forward as a united people in the path of honor and usefulness. (*Proceedings of* 1861, *page* 435.)

NUMBER REQUIRED ON MASONIC TRIALS.

Resolved, That the construction of the Grand Master, of Section 47, Title 6, of the Constitution, which requires a majority of the members "who are within the jurisdiction of the ☐ at the time," to be present at the time of trial, be and the same is hereby approved by the Grand ☐. (*Proceedings of* 1863, *page* 478.)

ON DUTIES OF ATTORNEYS.

Resolved, That any brother who is attorney and counselor within this jurisdiction, acting within the line of his duty as defined by law, is at liberty to undertake any cause that may seem to him to be just and legal, without regard to the character or standing of the party against whom he acts. (*Proceedings of* 1863, *page* 482, *and page* 531, 1864.)

JURISDICTION OF A ☐.

Resolved, That the jurisdiction of each Subordinate ☐ within the jurisdiction of this Grand ☐, shall extend to one half the distance to the nearest ☐ in every direction.

Resolved, That no Subordinate ☐ shall entertain an application for the Degrees in Masonry from any person residing within the jurisdiction of another Subordinate ☐, but after an applicant has been balloted for and accepted, the ☐ so accepting him may consent to his receiving the Degrees and holding membership in another ☐. (*Proceedings of* 1864, *pages* 529, 530.)

Resolved, That ☐ under Dispensation have the same rights as to jurisdiction as chartered ☐, and no other. (*Proceedings of* 1865, *page* 550.)

STATED MEETINGS.

Resolved, That no ☐ in this jurisdiction shall retain in its By-Laws any provision for more than two stated meetings in any one month. (*Proceedings of* 1865, *page* 545.)

PAY OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Resolved, That this Grand ☐ pay the Grand Treasurer the same compensation as is paid representatives of ☐, for receiving, keeping and disbursing the funds of this Grand ☐. (*Proceedings of January*, 1858, *page* 120.)

Resolved, That the present and all future Grand Officers attending the ☐ shall receive the same *per diem* and *mileage*, as the Delegates to this Grand Body. (*Proceedings of* 1866, *page* 566.)

EXPENSES OF GRAND MASTER.

Resolved, That the M.·. W.·. Grand Master be empowered to draw on the Grand Treasurer for his expenses in visiting ▱. (*Proceedings of* 1866, *page* 570.)

INVESTMENTS.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to invest the funds in his possession, after paying the appropriations and retaining five hundred dollars as contingent funds, in bonds of the United States, of the issue known as "seven-thirties." (*Proceedings of* 1866, *page* 571.)

DISTRICTS, DEPUTIES, POWERS, DUTIES, AND COMPENSATION.

1. That the State be divided into three, or as many districts as the G.·. M.·. may deem expedient, and that he appoint a District Deputy for each district, to continue in office 1, 2 and 3 years respectively, and so on, until their successors shall be appointed.

2. That the District Deputies meet on notice of the M.·. W.·. G.·. M.·. and agree upon "the ancient work," the G.·. M.·. to act with said Deputies in their labors, and if the work agreed upon by them be approved by him, that he authorize the same to be taught by said District Deputies, in their respective districts, and that said Deputies appear at the next meeting of the Grand ▭, and before that body exemplify the same fully, as agreed upon, and if approved by the Grand ▭, shall be taught and exemplified at each subsequent meeting of the Grand ▭.

3. That said District Deputies shall be required to attend each meeting of the M.·. W.·. G.·. ▭, and before that body exemplify the said work and lectures, and that they be paid the same mileage and per diem as the members of the Grand ▭, when so attending.

4. That no ▭ under this jurisdiction shall permit any one but legally authorized Deputies (or the Grand Master,) to lecture or instruct said ▱ in the work.

5. That for the purpose of communicating the work, ▱ *of Instruction* are recommended to the officers intrusted with its dissemination, in their respective districts.

6. That no ▭ U.·. D.·. shall be permitted to commence work, until properly instructed, and so certified to the G.·. M.·. by a District Deputy, or on personal examination by the Grand Master.

7. It shall be the duty of District Deputies to inspect the records of ▱ by them visited, and report to the Grand Master all ▱ which shall not have suitable halls to hold their meetings, that a remedy may be applied.

Resolved, That the District Deputies provided for by resolutions adopted yesterday, in visiting ▭ for the dissemination of uniformity of work within this jurisdiction, shall receive the sum of three dollars per day for the time necessarily employed, and the necessary expenses incurred in promulgating such work; to be paid by the Grand Treasurer upon the order of the M.·. W.·. G.·. M.·.; *Provided*, The expense is not paid by such ▭. (*Proceedings of* 1867, *pages* 597, 598, 600.)

STRIKING FROM ROLL.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand ▭, that no Mason can be stricken from the roll of his ▭, for non-payment of dues, under section 37, of title 5, of the Constitution of this Grand ▭, except upon charges regularly preferred, and conviction after an impartial trial, where the accused shall have had the opportunity of making his defence.—(*Proceedings of* 1867, *page* 602.)

Your Committee on Ancient Landmarks would respectfully call your attention to a practice which has obtained to some extent in this jurisdiction, of allowing Masons who had been stricken from the roll under section 36, title 5, of the Constitution, to become members again, by payment of dues only. Your committee are of the opinion that a non-affiliated Mason can become a member of a ▭ only in one way; and therefore we offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That a brother stricken from the roll, pursuant to section 36, of title 5, of the Constitution, can become a member again *only* by a regular petition, a favorable report, and a unanimous ballot.—(*Proceedings of* 1867, *page* 591.)

▭ MAY REMIT DUES.

Resolved, That any Subordinate ▭ within this jurisdiction may remit the dues of any of its members who are unable to pay the same, and the Grand ▭ dues for such brethren will be remitted.—(*Proceedings of* 1867, *page* 603.)

DUTIES OF COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Grand Master, upon Masonic Jurisprudence, to whom shall be referred all questions relating to the customs, usages, privileges and laws of the Fraternity, and the Grand Master shall make a report to the Grand ▭ at each Annual Communication, of all decisions made by him, upon questions of Masonic law, during the year, which shall be referred to said committee, and the decisions, with the report of the committee, shall be published in the Proceedings of this Grand ▭. (*Proceedings of* 1867, *page* 600.)

DECISIONS APPROVED BY THE GRAND ▭.

Answer 1. A Master elect must at least take the Past Master's obligation before being installed, to preside over a ▭.

This obligation can be imparted only in a Convocation of Past Masters.

Such Convocation can be opened only by at least three actual Past Masters. Receiving "the Degree of Past Master," so called, merely as one of the Chapter Degrees, does not qualify its possessor even to be present while the Degree is being conferred by actual Past Masters upon a Master elect.

Ans. 2. The resolution of the Grand ▭ relative to territorial jurisdiction of Subordinate ▭, can not be interpreted to parcel out territory to city ▭. Their jurisdiction must necessarily be concurrent.

Ans. 3. I do not know of any restriction upon the frequency of Stated Communications.*

Question. Our By-Laws provide that whenever the Master or Treasurer deems it necessary, they shall require such an amount from the members as may be deemed necessary to replenish the treasury. Is that proper?

Ans. 4. It is evident that our Grand ▭ Constitution assumes that each ▭ will provide a charity and contingent fund by a regular system of dues, and I do not think it prudent to leave it for the Master or Treasurer to make assessments, nor to depend upon fees for Degrees to fill the treasury. The former course may produce discord, and the latter may tempt the brethren to look more to money than fitness in providing what is technically called work.

Ans. 5. Under our Constitution a brother stricken from the roll for non-payment of dues, is restored to ▭ membership by the act of payment.†

Ans. 6. A dimit, so called, is not absolutely required as a prerequisite to joining a ▭, but as a matter of practice should be, unless there is a satisfactory explanation of its non-production.

Ans. 7. A brother Mason is always amenable to the *Fraternity*, and the particular ▭ within whose jurisdiction he may commit an unmasonic act, has the power to cite him before it and to try him.

* See resolution on page 673.

† Reversed by Grand ▭, session of 1867.—See resolution, page 675.

Ans. 8. A candidate can be stopped at any stage upon the objection of a brother, privately made to the Worshipful Master. It is for the latter to decide whether or not the objection be a proper one.

It is not necessary to prefer written charges to stop progress. The Worshipful Master controls the work of the ☐, and is responsible for a proper exercise of his powers.

Has a ☐ U.·. D.·. power to try its members?

Ans. The right of authority is against a ☐ U.·. D.·. having power to try its members.

Can a ☐ U.·. D.·. admit members?

Ans. No. The Grand ☐ of this State, in 1857, decided that ☐ under Dispensation, have not the power to admit members.

Who are members of a ☐ U.·. D.·.?

Ans. By strict construction the only legal members of a ☐ under Dispensation are those named in the dispensation. But the usage and the custom in this jurisdiction has been to regard the petitioners for the dispensation, and all Master Masons made in said ☐, as members, and as such are entitled to vote, and participate in the transactions of a ☐.

What is the jurisdiction of a ☐?

Ans. The jurisdiction of a Subordinate ☐ extends, in every direction, half way between it and the nearest ☐, but not beyond the jurisdiction of its own Grand ☐.

In case a petition has been received by the ☐, and referred to a committee for investigation, has the Master of the ☐ a right to withdraw said petition without the consent of the ☐, and discharge the committee?

Ans. The W.·. M.·. has no such right. See resolution of G.·. ☐, 1858.*

Has a member of the ☐ the right to object to the initiation of a candidate, or advancement, after the ballot has been had, and which is favorable, and before he has received the Degree?

Ans. Yes.

The report of the Committee of Investigation on the petition of a candidate is, that he is not eligible by reason that he had not resided within the jurisdiction of the ☐ one year previous to making such application. Must the petition take its regular course, or can it be withdrawn?

Ans. The petition in the first instance was not properly before the ☐, and should not have been received. Being irregular, it can be withdrawn. See report.

* See resolution, page 671.

What amount of dues must a suspended Mason pay to be restored —the amount for which he was stricken from the roll, or to the time when he was restored?

Ans. Only the amount due at the time he was stricken from the roll.

Can members be dimitted at any other than a regular Communication, and if a brother applies for a dimit at a proper time, and it is granted, but the member does not receive the certificate from the Secretary, and afterwards declines to receive it, is he still a member of the ☐?

Ans. The ☐ has no right to grant dimits except at a regular Communication of the ☐. When the ☐ grants the dimit he ceases to be a member; the action of the ☐ is complete and final. The certificate is only the written evidence of the ☐. If he desires to become a member of said ☐, he must apply as a non-affiliated Mason.

Can a non-affiliated Mason visit a ☐ after he has resided six months within the jurisdiction of said ☐ before he applies for membership?

Answer. He cannot. The resolution of the Grand ☐, Proceedings 1859, is positive and direct on this point.*

If a brother has received the Degree of Past Master in a R.·. A.·. C.·. but has not been elected and installed as Master of a ☐, is he qualified to install the officers of a ☐?

Answer. No.

The following question and answer have also been submitted:

In case a profane has been rejected, must he wait six months before he can re-apply, and in case he does wish to apply again, must he re-apply to the same ☐?

Ans. He must wait six months. See Grand ☐ resolution, Proceedings 1858.†

The Grand Master intimates no opinion upon the last question. It is, however, the opinion of your committee, that a profane must apply to the same ☐, so long as he resides in the jurisdiction, but not afterwards.

* See resolution, page 672.

† See resolution, page 671.

INSTRUCTIONS.

The necessity of accuracy in keeping the records of the Subordinate ▭, cannot be too forcibly impressed. The process of Registration (which has been neglected for several years) has developed a carelessness not credible but for its patency. This *must* be remedied, and to that end the Grand Master issues the following instructions. ▭ and Secretaries will govern themselves accordingly.

▭ RECORDS.

The Secretary of each ▭ should have :

1st. A RECORD OR MINUTE BOOK.—This should be a well bound volume, large enough to contain the records for several years, for reference in the future. In this book should be entered the transactions of each meeting, care being taken to enter the date of each Communication, whether *stated* or *special*, the names, age, occupation, birthplace and residence of all petitioners ; the names of the recommendors, and of the committee to whom referred. If the petition is for affiliation, the name, number, and location of the ▭ in which initiated, should be entered, and if the applicant has been a member of any ▭ in this State, that fact should also be stated by entering the name and number. The candidate's progress should be entered, to the end that it may be traced, should occasion require.

To test the accuracy of the records, they *must be read* at each Communication before the ▭ is closed.

2d. A RECEIPT BOOK.—In which to take the Treasurer's receipt for all moneys paid over to him. *Punctuality* in attendance is as much the business of the Treasurer as it is of the Secretary, and the latter officer should pay over all moneys received by him before the close of the meeting, taking a receipt, and noting the fact in his records.

3d. AN ACCOUNT BOOK.—In which to keep all the accounts of the ▭. In this book should be entered the name, as soon as the first Degree is received, and he charged with the fee and credited with the amount, and so of subsequent Degrees, and then charged with the dues and credited with amount paid, and when membership ceases the manner should be entered in this as well as in the Minute Book ; particular care being given to *dates, day, month, and year*, in all cases.

4th. A CONVENIENCE BOOK.—This book should be ruled in par-

allel columns, properly headed, to show at a glance the name, age, occupation and residence of all applicants, either for Degrees or affiliation; the date of the presentation of petition; date of and the action had; whether elected or rejected, and the date of the reception of each Degree; of affiliating Masons, the name, number, and location of the ▭ in which *initiated;* and under head of remarks, give the name and number of the ▭ from which dimitted, if within this jurisdiction, provided it was not the ▭ in which initiated.

The forms for petitions, if complied with, will furnish the preparatory date for this book.

A book thus prepared will facilitate the keeping of the Registry Book, and save a great deal of time in making out the Annual Returns.

5th. A REGISTRY BOOK.—This book is ruled in parallel columns, and headed exactly like the blank returns. In each column will be entered the date—*day, month, and year*, as the events to be recorded, occur. None but Master Masons are entitled to registry, or ▭ No. (2d column.) Hence none but the names of Master Masons are entered in the Register, and that *must be done consecutively according to priority in the date of receiving the Master's Degree or of affiliation.* The ▭ number thus indicates the successive rank in membership of each individual, according to date—raising, or of affiliation. The column headed "JOINED," is intended for the date of affiliation of those adjoining from other ▭.

This book is for entries by the Secretary himself, and if he keeps a "Convenience Book," can be kept up regularly without the consumption of time.

Registers are furnished by the Grand ▭, at cost.

6th. BOOK OF BY-LAWS.—In this should be written the By-Laws of the ▭. This book should be kept in the ▭ room ready for the signatures of all brethren raised in or affiliating with the ▭, at the time of such action.

System and accuracy are almost synonymous, as one begets the other, and Secretaries, with this series of ▭ books, will find a saving of both time and labor.

ANNUAL RETURNS.

Many Secretaries bestow an unnecessary amount of labor on the returns, of itself of not so much consequence, perhaps, but it imposes a vast amount of unnecessary labor upon the Grand ▭ "Committee on Returns of Subordinate ▭," and also upon the Grand Secretary in recording. Returns are sent to the Grand ▭ that must have required days to make up, when the work actually required

would not have taken an hour to copy from the register. Not one omission or inaccuracy need occur, if Secretaries pay ordinary attention to their duties. With system all the work required of a Secretary can be done during the hours of the Communication. And to insure a faithful performance of their duties, the Grand Master would recommend to each Subordinate ▭ that they allow the Secretary a certain fixed compensation.

Returns must be made out to the first day of January of each year and sent to the Grand Secretary, that he may examine them before the meeting of the Grand ▭. Blanks will be furnished on application to the Grand Secretary.

The ▭ register commences with the date of organization under charter; the first entries are the names of petitioners, and then the work done, entered and numbered according to priority of receiving the third Degree.

The Annual Returns are copied from the ▭ Register. The first year all the names on the register, commencing with ▭ No. 1, to January 1st, of the year, are included in the return, even if they have been previously reported, as U.·. D.·. returns are not registered. The next year commence with January 1st, and return *only the work of the year*, which includes all initiations, passings, raisings, adjoinings, withdrawals, deaths, &c., observing the printed form at the end.

Names of Master Masons *once returned should not again be sent up*, unless the membership ceases; in that case *only* the *name*, *Grand* ▭, and ▭ *number*, and *date* of the cessation of membership, in the appropriate column, are required. In the returns affixed to the names of Master Masons made, must be the date of initiating, passing or raising, even if the dates of initiating or passing have been previously returned. It takes but a moment for a Secretary to do this, while copying from his register; if not done, the Grand Secretary is obliged to hunt up the dates from previous returns. Our ▭ are now so numerous that looking up dates of past initiations or passings among the mass of returns, would occupy too much time, particularly as the trouble can be obviated by a moment's labor below.

The Grand ▭ registry contains the names of over 4,000 Masons. The Grand ▭ numbers are fixed, never changed. A brother may dimit and adjoin another ▭, his Grand ▭ number remains the same; and in re-recording his name from his new ▭ in the register, we must look back to find his Grand ▭ number. Hence the necessity of *affixing* to the names of affiliating brethren, the name, number, and location of the ▭ in which initiated, and if formerly a member

of any ▭ in this jurisdiction, to state the fact, giving the name and number thus: "49; John Smith; 53; Merchant, Me.; Wilton; June 19, 1868; Washington, No. 8, N. Y.; Hope, 42, Minn." The Grand Secretary then refers to letter S, in the register, Hope 42, and readily finds the Grand ▭ number of John Smith, checks it, and affixes it to the new registration; otherwise he has to look over the entire list of names beginning with S, numbering two or three hundred, to find whether John Smith has been previously registered.

▭ are chargeable with dues for all members returned, of one year's standing, except Secretary and Tyler, and will continue to be so charged until membership ceases, and the fact returned to the Grand ▭. It is not sufficient to report five, (more or less,) withdrawn, &c., but the names, Grand ▭ and ▭ number must be given, and the *date* of the occurrence.

The Grand Master urges upon Secretaries to record the full name of all Masons hereafter made or affiliated. "J. Smith" may mean John, or Jacob, or Joseph, &c. The first name should, in all cases, be given in full, not merely the initials. There are quite a number of J. Jones, J. Smith, &c., in the State. And where dates are required, be particular as to *day*, *month*, and *year*.

Masters of Subordinate ▭ *are charged to see* that the necessary books are had, and properly kept, and that the foregoing instructions are *strictly* complied with.

RETURNS—WHEN TO BE MADE.

Resolved, That Secretaries of Subordinate ▭ be required to make their returns to the Grand Secretary on the 1st day of December in each year, the first return to include the time from the date of last returns, and to make them up to the 1st day of December, A.·. L.·. 5868.—(*Proceedings of* 1867, *amended to January* 1*st*, 1869.)

VOTING.

But three methods of voting are known in a Masonic ▭, viz:

1st. The secret ballot.

2d. The uplifted right arm, or ancient sign; and,

3d. By calling the roll.

The first is used in acting upon petitions and awarding punishment.

The second in the business of the ▭. And

The third when as directed by the Grand ▭ Constitution.

Divulging his ballot subjects a brother to ▭ discipline; *provided*, that a brother voting in the negative may, of his own volition, state

his reasons for so doing; but that had (if at all) better be done *before* than after a ballot.

Upon the rejection of a candidate, the W.·. M.·. shall *permit* no remarks to be made, except as in the above proviso.

It is not absolutely necessary to ballot upon an application on the same evening that the report is made. The W.·. M.·. may, in his discretion, or on the request of a member of the ▭, *postpone* the ballot until the next Stated Communication.

DIPLOMA DISTINGUISHED FROM DIMIT.

A diploma is an instrument made for preservation, and may be used as collateral evidence in proof of good standing, while living, and for the benefit of the family after the brother's decease. It should be signed by the three principal officers of the ▭, attested by the signature of the Secretary and seal of the ▭; and to which is attached a certificate of the Grand Secretary under the seal of the Grand ▭.

A dimit is simply a receipt for moneys paid, and requires only the signature of the Secretary and seal of the ▭.

THE PROPER OFFICER TO PRESENT AND PROSECUTE CHARGES FOR UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

All charges for unmasonic conduct against a brother, must be in writing—provided it is proper to be written, and should clearly and distinctly state the offence or offences complained of, and should be signed by the brother making the same. The charges should be given to the S.·. or J.·. W.·., whose duty it is to *present* said charges in proper form to the ▭, as prescribed in the rules governing "trials and its incidents," title 6, Grand ▭ Constitution.

All charges for unmasonic conduct, committed while the Craft is at labor, should be presented by the S.·. W.·., and all charges for such conduct during the time the Craft is at refreshment, should be presented by the J.·. W.·.

THE PROPER TIME TO SIGN THE BY-LAWS.

Each Subordinate ▭ should have a book in which the By-Laws of the ▭ are neatly written. The By-Laws are of no force unless approved by the Grand Master. And all amendments made to the By-Laws, *must* be approved before they are of any validity.

The petitioner for Degrees, or membership, is entitled to a copy of the By-Laws. Our Grand ▭ Constitution provides that "None but Master Masons, and who have signed the By-Laws, can be members of a Subordinate ▭." In order that all Master Masons may have an opportunity to become members, they should be invited to sign the By-Laws of the ▭, immediately after receiving the Degree or affiliation, and before the ▭ is closed.

WHEN DISPENSATIONS EXPIRE.

Dispensations for ☐ U.·. D.·. expire with the commencement of the session of the Grand ☐; and no work can be done, after a charter is *granted*, until the ☐ is *constituted*, and its officers legally *installed*.

☐ U.·. D.·. CANNOT ADMIT MEMBERS.

The officers of a ☐ working under dispensation, can not be installed. The powers and privileges of a ☐ under dispensation are limited to those specifically named in the dispensation, and *cannot* affiliate members.

WHEN ELECTIONS CAN BE HELD.

Elections can only be held at the time prescribed by the Constitution or By-Laws. For good cause stated, the Grand Master may permit a ☐ to hold an election at some time other than that prescribed in the By-Laws.

OBJECTION TO THE ADMISSION OF VISITORS.

A Master Mason within the body of a ☐ of which he is a member, has the right to object to the admission of a visiting brother, and may, or may not, at his own option, assign his reasons for so doing.

OBJECTION TO THE ADMISSION OF A MEMBER.

A brother may object to the admission of a member of his own ☐, but such objection imposes upon the ☐ an absolute necessity to investigate the matter, and to visit the offending brother with Masonic discipline.

PUBLIC PROCESSIONS.

A ☐ has no right to appear in a public procession without the permission of the Grand Master. This rule has been relaxed in this jurisdiction so far as to permit the burial of a brother without first obtaining such permission.

MEMBERS OF G.·. ☐ MUST WEAR THEIR JEWEL.

Not only the Constitution of the Grand ☐ of Minnesota, but the Ancient Regulations, require the Representatives to the Grand ☐ to appear with their collar and Jewel. This regulation has been neglected a few years past. It must be complied with for the future.

NOT TO LEAVE ☐ DURING SESSION.

Brethren should not leave the ☐ until its close, without urgent necessity for so doing, remembering the ancient charge, "and not desert the Master until the work is finished."

NON-AFFILIATED MASONS AMENABLE.

Every Mason residing within the jurisdiction of a ▭, is amenable to it for his Masonic conduct. Hence a non-affiliated Mason can be dealt with for violation of Masonic polity the same as a member of the particular ▭ under whose jurisdiction he resides, or is temporarily sojourning.

CONSTITUTIONS TO BE READ.

In conclusion, the Grand Master urges upon the Masters of the ▭, not only the propriety, but necessity, of familiarizing the brethren with the laws of Masonry, and to that end recommends that the "Ancient Charges" be read at each initiation, as it was done in days of yore, and that the Constitution of the Grand ▭ be read at least quarterly.

C. W. NASH,
Grand Master.

St. Paul, 1868.

FORMS.

OF PETITION FOR THE DEGREES.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of.....
▭, No. Free and Accepted Masons.

The petition of the undersigned respectfully represents that he has long entertained a favorable opinion of your Ancient and Honorable Fraternity; and that unbiassed by friends, and uninfluenced by mercenary motives, he freely and voluntarily offers himself as a candidate for the Mysteries.

That he is prompted by a sincere desire of being serviceable to his fellow-man, and promises, if found worthy, to conform to all the Ancient customs and usages of the Institution.

His age..... Occupation..... Birth Place.....
Residence.....

[To be signed with *full name.*]

..... 18.... (Signed)

Recommended by
Bro.....
Bro.....

OF PETITION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of..... □, No.

The petition of the undersigned respectfully represents, that he is a Master Mason of good standing, late a member of..... □, No., State of..... That he is not in arrearages to that or any other Masonic □, and is desirous, if found worthy, to be accepted a member of your □.

His age..... Occupation..... Birth Place.....

Residence..... Was initiated in □, No. State of

[Date] [Signed].....

[To be signed with *full name.*]

Recommended by
Bro.....
Bro.....

OF RETURN OF ELECTION.

.....18..

BE IT KNOWN, that on the.....day of..... A.·. L.·. 58.., at a regular meeting of.....Lodge, No., held in the.....county of.....in the State of Minnesota, our worthy Brother.....was elected Master; our worthy Brother.....Senior Warden, and our worthy Brother.....Junior Warden, of the said Lodge for the ensuing year, and that said Master and Wardens have been duly installed.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we the members of said Lodge, have [L. S.] caused the seal thereof to be hereunto affixed, and our Secretary to sign the same.

....., *Secretary,*

R.·. W.·.....

G.·. Sec.

St. Paul.

To be made out annually and sent to the Grand Secretary within ten days after the installation.

FORM OF EITHER RECEIPT OR DIMIT.

HALL OF.....LODGE NO....F.·. & A.·. M.·.

.....A.·. L.·. 58...

To all whom it may concern:

Know ye that Bro.·.....a Master Mason in good standing, has discharged all his liabilities to this □ to date.

His Grand □ No. is....

.....

[L. S.] Sec'y.

OF APPLICATION FOR A DISPENSATION FOR A NEW LODGE.

To the M.·. W.·. Grand Master of Masons for the State of Minnesota:

The petition of the undersigned respectfully represents, that they are Master Masons in good standing; that having the prosperity of the Fraternity at heart, and willing to promote and diffuse its principles, are desirous of establishing a new ▭ at in the county of....., and State of.....

They therefore pray for letters of Dispensation, authorizing them to open and work a ▭ at said named....., according to them the privileges usual in this jurisdiction to ▭ U.·. D.·. Their prayer being granted, they faithfully promise a strict adherence to the Ancient Landmarks of the Institution, and compliance with the Constitution and Regulations of the Grand ▭ of Minnesota, and the requirements of the Letters of Dispensation.

They respectfully suggest that the name of the ▭ be.....and recommend Bro.·..... be appointed Master; Bro.·..... Senior Warden, and Bro.·..... Junior Warden.

FULL NAMES.	LODGE OF WHICH (OR LATE) A MEMBER.

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